



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

2 NAVY ANNEX

WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

TRG

Docket No: 400-00

26 May 2000

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED],
[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. 1552

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments
(2) Case Summary
(3) Subject's naval record

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former enlisted member of the United States Navy filed enclosure (1) with this Board requesting that her reenlistment code be changed.

2. The Board, consisting of Mr. Pfeiffer, Ms. Hare and Ms. Davies, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 23 May 2000 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, naval records, and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.

b. Enclosure (1) was filed in a timely manner.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy on 6 October 1998 at age 29. The next day she was diagnosed with a dysthymic disorder. At that time she described a chronic history of depression and anxiety and periodic blackouts since 1988. She also reported "chronic insomnia, feelings of hopelessness and helplessness, and frequent suicidal ideation." The psychologist recommended separation because of the disqualifying psychiatric condition.

d. Based on the psychiatric recommendation, Petitioner was processed for separation. On 14 October 1998 the separation authority directed an entry level separation due to erroneous enlistment and a Separation Program Designator (SPD) of "JFC". She was so separated on 19 October 1998. At that time she was not recommended for reenlistment and assigned an RE-4

reenlistment code.

e. Petitioner states that while in transit to recruit training, she found out that her mother had suffered a stroke and this was the culmination of a year in which six friends and relatives had died. She states that she became depressed and decided to speak to a counselor at the "moment of truth". She further states, in effect that the counselor must have misunderstood the things she was saying.

f. The Board is aware that regulations allow for the assignment of the full range of reenlistment codes including an RE-3E or RE-4 code when an individual is assigned an SPD of JFC.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record the Board concludes that Petitioner's request warrants favorable action. The Board notes the psychiatric evaluation was sufficient to support separation from the Navy. However, the Board also notes the possibility that Petitioner's problems occurred because of the illness of her mother and the previous deaths of family and friends. Further, given the absence of psychiatric testing, it is clear that the diagnosis was based only on her admission. Therefore, the Board concludes that the RE-4 reenlistment code should now be changed to the less restrictive RE-3E. This code will alert recruiters that an evaluation of her mental status is needed before an enlistment can be authorized but will not preclude such an evaluation as would an RE-4 reenlistment code.

RECOMMENDATION:

a. That Petitioner's naval record be corrected to show that she was assigned an RE-3E reenlistment code on 19 October 1998 vice the RE-4 reenlistment code now of record.

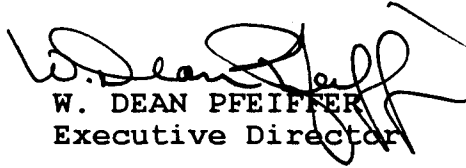
b. That this Report of Proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above entitled matter.

ROBERT D. ZSALMAN
Recorder


ALAN E. GOLDSMITH
Acting Recorder

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 723.6(e)) and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.


W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director